

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Fifth Norfolk Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of Fifth Norfolk Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.4% (531) reside in the Fifth Norfolk Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (100) of Fifth Norfolk Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 69.8% of admissions from the Fifth Norfolk Representative District were male and 30.1% were female.
- Over 60.8% of admissions were between the ages of 30-49.
- 91.9% of admissions were white non-Latino, 3.7% were black non-Latino, 2.0% were Latino, 0.2% were Asians, and 2.6% were other racial categories.
- 67.2% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 12.2% were married, and 13.9% reported not to be married now.
- 22% of admissions had less than high school education, 50.8% completed high school, and 27.1% had more than high school education.
- 39.9% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 6.21% of those admitted were homeless.
- 9.3% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Fifth Norfolk Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
Fifth Norfolk Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	373	303	84	98	46	105	85
FY '96	376	292	105	110	55	85	66
FY '97	394	320	94	100	44	97	69
FY '98	638	515	155	148	54	149	111
FY '99	567	439	129	172	74	171	133
FY '00	557	444	143	148	69	145	110
FY '01	531	422	120	131	55	136	107

- Since FY 1995, residents of Fifth Norfolk Representative District reported an increase across all the drug categories.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting alcohol use increased by 39%, marijuana by 42%, cocaine by 33%, crack by 16%, and heroin use by 29%.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Fifth Norfolk Representative District.

Table 2 Primary Drug by District and State FY 2001					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	61.2 %	22.6%	4.7%	4.7%	2.2%
State	46.5%	35.9%	6.5%	3.9%	3.4%

- While heroin, marijuana, and crack as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was lower than the State average, alcohol and cocaine was higher within your District.